

The African American Veterans Group of Washington State, which Lee founded in 1984, is planning a community memorial service on May 28. I know there will be an outpouring of grief and appreciation for this soft-spoken hero. He touched so many lives with his healing skills and lessons of his great pain and sacrifice. Our country is a better place because of Lemanuel Jones.

Rest in peace.

#### THE NATIONAL DEBT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. KINZINGER) for 5 minutes.

Mr. KINZINGER of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, let me just read a quote here: "Leadership means that the buck stops here. Instead, Washington is shifting the burden of bad choices today onto the backs of our children and grandchildren. America has a debt problem and a failure of leadership. Americans deserve better."

Some things never change. That was Senator Barack Obama in 2006 talking about the seriousness of the debt problem and the crisis that we find our Nation in. And today, we've spent over \$1.5 trillion of money that we don't have.

Republicans have put forward a budget, a proposal, a blueprint to begin to have the serious discussion that our country needs to have to make sure that the children and we are not left with an unrecoverable debt situation. Americans expect leadership. Even if you don't agree, Americans expect leadership from us, and what do they get? They get demonization. They get accusations. They get fear tactics.

You know, our senior citizens in many cases sit at their homes and wonder what's going to happen. They find themselves concerned with their financial situation. And people on the other side of the aisle sometimes get together and figure out how they can take that fear and use it to a political advantage. That's terrible. Has it been done on both sides? It has.

But today is the day that we get together, and we have to hit the reset button and say for the future of our country, we have got to have a real serious conversation about how to save this Nation for the generation to come after us. This country is the greatest country in the world, and we are not about to give that up. It will never happen. We are going to be the strongest country for the foreseeable future.

There are a lot of folks talking ourselves down thinking that we are going to be usurped by another country. No, we are not. But we do have to come together, and we do have to have the serious conversations if we are going to maintain our place as the world's superpower and as a shining example to other countries all around the world.

I fully believe in what this country is. I fully believe in what we represent, but the days of demonizing each other and not leading have got to end.

It has been 756 days since Senate Democrats have passed a budget. The most basic job of a legislator is to pass a budget, and we haven't done it. Instead, we bicker. Instead, we argue. Instead, we run 30-second television ads and try to scare people so that we can win a reelection again. It's happened on both sides.

But today, please, I implore my friends on the other side of the aisle, on both sides of the aisle, stop today and let's have adult conversations. America is too great, America is too important, and America is too excellent of an example for the rest of the world to be mired down and bickering and to be mired down in debt.

#### HONORING GARY WILLIAMS AND RALPH FRIEDGEN OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER) for 5 minutes.

Mr. HOYER. Before I start, Mr. Speaker, let me say that I hope the words of my young friend, who is now leaving the floor, are adhered to by both of us. Too infrequently that is the case. The problems are serious. We must address them in a serious way.

Mr. Speaker, however, I raise a happier point of discussion now. I am a proud alumnus of the University of Maryland, and recent months, however, have brought some bittersweet news.

An era is coming to an end in the Terrapin athletic program as our successful coaches of basketball and football have left the school. I want to take this opportunity, therefore, to honor Coaches Gary Williams and Ralph Friedgen for all they have meant to the Maryland community, both on and off the court and field. Both of them are good friends of mine.

Gary Williams was my neighbor for a number of years. Gary retired as Maryland's basketball coach after 22 hard-working, successful college years in College Park and 33 years in college coaching ranks. At his retirement, Gary Williams ranked as the fifth winningest college basketball coach in America, with 668 wins stretching over his remarkable career. He is also the third winningest coach in Atlantic Coast Conference history behind two legends, Dean Smith and Mike Krzyzewski.

Gary Williams inherited a struggling program and turned it into a perennial national contender. Under his guidance, the Terrapins reached the NCAA tournament 14 times, 11 times consecutively, won three ACC regular season titles and an ACC tournament championship, made seven sweet sixteens, two elite eights, two final fours, and, in a memory that all Terrapins still treasure and I had the opportunity of attending in Atlanta, won the national championship in 2002. Coach Williams was honored as National Coach of the Year in 2002 and as ACC Coach of the Year in 2002 and 2010.

But numbers alone do not capture his impact on the lives of his players or on the life of the Maryland community where he stood out as a leader and as a philanthropist. Maryland's Athletic Director Kevin Anderson correctly summed it up best when he said "Gary Williams is a legend." That is true.

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Terrapins will also miss our football coach, Ralph Friedgen, who coached his last game with the program on December 29. Fittingly, it was a decisive win—a 51–20 victory in the Military Bowl in Washington, DC.

"The Fridge," as he is affectionately known, also took over a struggling program and led it to notable success. He guided Maryland to the ACC championship in his very first year as coach. And of the 10 years in his tenure, 7 of them ended with postseason appearances.

In both his first year as Maryland football coach and his last, he was named ACC Coach of the Year. Coach Friedgen won 74 games for the University of Maryland, brought new energy to our football program and left a lasting mark in College Park. He was respected by his players and looked to as a role model. I was proud to call him a friend as well. He, too, will be missed by all who love Maryland, who love football, who love basketball and who live the principles that sports teaches.

Both Gary Williams and Ralph Friedgen are good men and outstanding leaders. And while I know that the Maryland athletic program will build on the proud foundation they laid, their shoes will be tough to fill.

Good luck, thank you and Godspeed to Gary Williams and Ralph Friedgen.

#### THE DEBT CEILING

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Washington (Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER) for 5 minutes.

Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER. Mr. Speaker, decades of a spending party by both parties have led to the point where we are today. We're under crushing amounts of debt. Now we are borrowing about \$58,000 per second—\$58,000 per second.

As some of my colleagues have shared, I'm going to read this as well. It's a quote for those who can't see it: "Leadership means that 'the buck stops here.' Instead, Washington is shifting the burden of bad choices today onto the backs of our children and grandchildren. America has a debt problem. America deserves better." Senator Barack Obama in 2006.

Now the President has asked those of us in this Chamber to vote to increase the debt limit without any structural spending reforms. Let me repeat that. He has now asked us to send a bill to him that has no structural spending reforms.

We are borrowing \$58,000 a second. Does that sound like a failure of leadership? I think it does. Here is what